categories cannot be calculated separately. Drop-out rates have been declining since the launch of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The primary stage drop-out rates declined from 39.0% in 2001-02 to 29.0% in 2004-05.

(d) A multi-pronged approach has been adopted under SSA for reducing drop-out rates. One set of interventions relates to strengthening of schools and improving the quality of education through improvement in school infrastructure, recruitment of additional teachers, annual school grants, regular training of teachers, regular academic support to teachers etc. In addition, several interventions under SSA also aim at community support, flexible schooling for children who are drop-outs, older children or children in difficult circumstances, and special provisions to promote education of girls, children from disadvantaged sections of society or children with special needs.

Final report of Moily Panel

2150. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Moily Panel and submitted its final report by 15th September, 2006 suggesting roadmap for reservation of OBCs;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what will be the likely number of eligible candidates for academic session 2007-08 in general, SC, ST and OBC categories and the number of seats available to them for admission in IIMS, IITs and Medical Colleges and percentage of seats in relation to eligible candidates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Oversight Committee has submitted its final report on the 30th September, 2006. A Budgetary provision of Rs. 2698.00 crores has been for the financial year 2007-08 to meet the first year requirement of funds for expanding capacity of Central Educational Institutions coming under purview of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

(c) While no estimate can be made of the likely number of candidates enrolling in the different categories in the year 2007-08, according to the provisions of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission)

Act, 2006 all institutions have to expand capacity to implement reservation for the SC(15%), the ST (7.5%) and the OBCs (27%) without reducing the number of seats available to the unreserved category over a maximum period of three years.

Review of SSA on CAG report

2151. SHRI DARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the backdrop of CAG report on ineffectiveness of Sarva Shiksa Abhiyan and Mid-day Meal Scheme by the Centre and State Governments, Hon'ble PM reviewed its flagship education sector programme on 22nd September, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to implement the scheme effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Programmes of Government of India were reviewed by the Prime Minister on 22.09.2006 as they are important flagship programmes of the country.

(b) and (c) Some of the key suggestions made in the meeting were to disseminate good practices across States in the Country; develop mechanisms for ranking of States/ UTs on progress achieved; and discuss in the National Development Council to develop consensus on these flagship programmes of the Government.

Recognition of B.Ed/M. Ed courses

2152. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for getting the B.Ed/M.Ed courses recognized in the States;

(b) whether any No Objection Certificate is required for the concerned State for getting the recognition of B.Ed/MEd. Colleges;